

A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR WILLIAMS
APRIL 2004

Dear Citizens:

Our city has long struggled with how best to manage congestion and to provide downtown parking and transit. These problems have been exacerbated as a result of successful development and security concerns. I am asking the leaders of the business and civic community to work with me and the department heads of my administration and other government agencies to come up with workable and achievable recommendations to make downtown Washington a model of transportation excellence in the region and the nation. I am pleased that Councilmembers Schwartz, Evans, Brazil, Ambrose, and Graham have agreed to be co-conveners of this Downtown Congestion Task Force.



The task force will develop innovative solutions to the transportation problems in the central business district. We will incorporate the results of relevant transportation initiatives that have recently been completed on motor carriers, tour buses, parking, as well as our long-range transportation vision plan. In addition, we will consider the best practices of other U.S. and international cities. Our final work product will be recommendations for legislation and regulatory action to implement the preferred congestion management solutions.

City-owned streets and sidewalks in the District of Columbia account for approximately 40% of the land area in the downtown. This extraordinary public asset should be managed to maximize its value to the citizens of the District for all uses (and users). The Task Force recommendations will be presented to the public for your feedback. Your comments will contribute to securing the future success of our downtown.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams

- Anthony A. Williams